

## A CHICAGO PREACHER SAYS MOTHERS ALONE CAN SAVE US FROM VICE AND CRIME

By N. D. Cochran, Editor of The Day Book.

Ever since that incident in the Garden of Eden, when Adam blamed the whole thing on Eve and got away with it, that noble creature MAN has been trying to dodge responsibility in the same cowardly way.

One of the modern illustrations of the same idea, or invention, ~~is the~~ way Kipling puts it, "The female of the species is more deadly than the male."

But it remained for a Chicago preacher, Rev. R. Keene Ryan, to bring the thing clear up to date.

The learned Mr. Ryan was commissioned by Hearst's Chicago American to visit various poolrooms and help show that auto bandits get started on their downward path in poolrooms.

We needn't bother much about that, but after reporting his visits to the pool joints and how he found many young men and boys there loafing and playing pool, he put the entire responsibility of saving boys on the mothers of Chicago.

He says the poolrooms are a peril and a disgrace, but adds, "you will never reach the cure through regulation by law. It cannot be done. You cannot legislate these places out of business. The police are powerless to check the evil."

Then comes this astounding declaration:

"There is only one salvation for the city and its youths, and that is THE MOTHERS. Mothers can do what governments cannot do. These wayward boys are the results of cause; the cause is lack of discipline in the home.

"Chicago mothers can save the day; they can solve the knotty problem; they can clear our streets of bandits; they can close every poolroom, dance hall and resort in this city, and they only."

And then the learned and revered gentlemen, having proven his case to his own satisfaction, and probably to the satisfaction of Hearst, winds up with a touching appeal to the mothers of Chicago to get busy and save our boys and girls from destruction, and the rich from bandits.

That's a soft enough philosophy for the men. It recalls some words we once heard in a song: "Let the women of the house do the work, while the men have an easy time."

But we can't see much consolation in such a doctrine for real, red-blooded men, or a whole lot of hope in it for boys and girls.

The world's mothers have been doing more than their fair share of making the world better, ever since they began having babies and raising them. The mothers who have not done their utmost to